NUMBER 19 SEPTEMBER, 1927

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HARVARD LIBRARY NOTES

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HARVARD LIBRARY NOTES

SEPTEMBER No. 19 1927

THE FARNSWORTH ROOM has been entirely renovated during the summer under the personal oversight of Mr. and Mrs. Farnsworth. The walls are now tinted a more harmonious color; the chairs and lounges have spent some weeks with Irving and Casson; the tables have been refinished to remove the glare from shiny surfaces; new fixtures will provide more adequate and diffused light; and, most important of all, ventilating arrangements will admit fresh air.

* * *

Caronia, Lat. 45.23, Long. 34.25
Wednesday, July 20, 1927.

Dear Friends of the Harvard Library,—

It was a great pleasure and a wonderful surprise to Mrs. Lane and me to find a great box of such beautiful roses in our room on this ship. In spite of the heat they were in perfect condition and were much admired as they decorated our table in the dining room.

We are enjoying every moment of the voyage — first a couple of hot days — then a cool one with sparkling sea — today overcast and blowy with a rising sea tonight and great rushing waves rising along the sides of the ship and breaking into sheets of foam and columns of spray.

The Caronia is remarkably steady and none of our family are at all the worse for sea conditions.

We make over four hundred miles every day and Cambridge already seems not only many miles but even many weeks away and I find it hard to realize that all is going on there just as it was five days ago.

With many thanks from both Mrs. Lane and myself for your kind thoughts and good wishes.

Always faithfully yours,

WM. C. LANE

* * *

MR. BRIGGS returned on August 5 from his half-year's leave of absence. With Mrs. Briggs he left Cambridge on February 13 and while they did not go 'round the world,' they did encircle the United States, driving over fifteen thousand miles through thirty-nine states. Although on a vacation trip, Mr. Briggs visited a number of libraries and spoke to Harvard Clubs in nine cities of the South and West, naturally emphasizing library matters. Keen interest was shown in such statements as that the present position of the Harvard University Library, as fifth among the libraries of the world in number of volumes, could perhaps be understood when one realized that the library had its beginning two years before the printing of the first book in British North America, and that that book, the Bay Psalm Book, was printed in Cambridge; and of the ten copies of the book now existing the Harvard copy was presented by a member of the class of 1723.

In the administration of two others of the world's five largest libraries, Harvard men occupy prominent positions; Herbert Putnam, '83, as Librarian of Congress and H. M. Lydenberg, '96, as Reference Librarian of the New York Public Library.

At the invitation of President Aydelotte of Swarthmore College, Mr. Briggs visited that institution and discussed the contemplated changes to be made in the library building. Emory University at Atlanta was also visited and the new library building inspected, with the planning of which

Mr. Briggs had had some part. Again at Seattle he had lunch with Mr. C. F. Gould, '98, the architect of the effective new library building of the University of Washington.

A visit to Piedras Negras, a Mexican border town south of Del Rio, Texas, was profitable in the finding of over fifty contemporary Mexican broadside ballads, which Mr. Briggs sent to Professor Kittredge.

Of especial interest were the visits to the library of the University of Texas and the Huntington Library at Pasadena. At the former Professor R. H. Griffith, Curator of the Wrenn Collection, proudly called attention to the copy of the 'Mayflower Bible' with the entry, in manuscript, of the birth of Peregrine White, the first white child born in Plymouth. At the Huntington Library, Professor F. J. Turner was carrying on investigations and made sure that Mr. Briggs was shown everything of interest. To hold in one's hands the Ellesmere Chaucer manuscript and to compare the miniature equestrian portrait of Chaucer in that precious volume with the painting in the Treasure Room at Harvard was a privilege and experience never to be forgotten. Two unique copies of books printed on the Daye Press, i.e., 'Lawes and liberties of Massachusetts Bay,' 1648, and the Baxter tract, translated into the Indian language, awakened a justifiable envy in one connected with a library almost on the spot where these were printed.

* * *

Frank W. C. Hersey, '99, Instructor in English, had a sympathetic appreciation of one of the Library's minor needs when he established the conditions governing the expenditure of the income of a fund of $5000 given by him in memory of his mother. The Library, like most academic laboratories, has to meet first the requirements of the teaching staff, and it is never easy for those who direct the instruction to keep up an acquisitive interest in the things that seem important to those younger persons who in due

time ought to be their successors. This is particularly true in such a field as contemporary literature. Mr. Hersey's contact with undergraduates has given him a keen realization of the inevitable result of this difficulty, and so, after discussing the matter with Mr. Potter, he provided that;

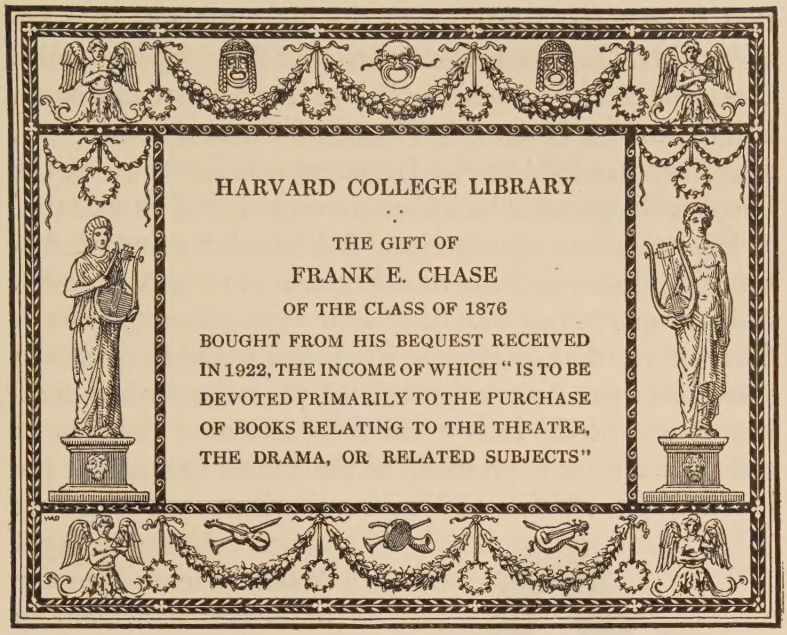
> The income from the Permelia E. Cheney Hersey Fund is to be used for the purchase of recent books in British and American Literature. The term 'recent' as here used means books published during the twenty-five years preceding their purchase, the phrase to be interpreted progressively year after year. By this method a number of recent and contemporary books may always be obtained.

The Library is not, and ought not to be, a circulating library for ordinary reading, even for undergraduates. At the same time, its aim must be, as an ideal, to secure the books which are going to be accepted as of permanent worth by later generations, when they first appear. There are a good many undergraduates, probably a larger proportion than among the patrons of public libraries, who think they know what these books are, while they are recent publications. These students very properly want to find these books in the college library.

The Library has had very little money that could be used for buying books of this sort. Until recently, the fine money was all that could be counted on. It has long been the policy to use the money taken from students as fines for infringements of library regulations, for buying books otherwise unobtainable in which these same students are particularly interested. Latterly the generous endowment of the Farnsworth Room, consecrated to undergraduate readers, has helped greatly to relieve this situation. And now Mr. Hersey's gift will make it possible to supply more of these books each year for students to read at their rooms.

* * *

D. Berkeley Updike's Merrymount Press designed and printed two of the bookplates reproduced on another page. The other, for the New England Primers, is from the Harvard University Press.


HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY
THE GIFT OF
FRANK E. CHASE
OF THE CLASS OF 1876
BOUGHT FROM HIS BEQUEST RECEIVED
IN 1922, THE INCOME OF WHICH "IS TO BE
DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO THE PURCHASE
OF BOOKS RELATING TO THE THEATRE,
THE DRAMA, OR RELATED SUBJECTS"

Two other plates used by the Library were done by Mr. Updike. That for the Frank E. Chase, '76, gift is reproduced herewith; the other is used for purchases made from the income of a gift of $2000 received in 1917 from Mr. and Mrs. Jopling, and reads:

From the Fund given in Memory of RICHARD MATHER JOPLING, '16. A Member of the United States Army Ambulance Corps in the European War. Croix de Guerre Died in London, March 16, 1916.

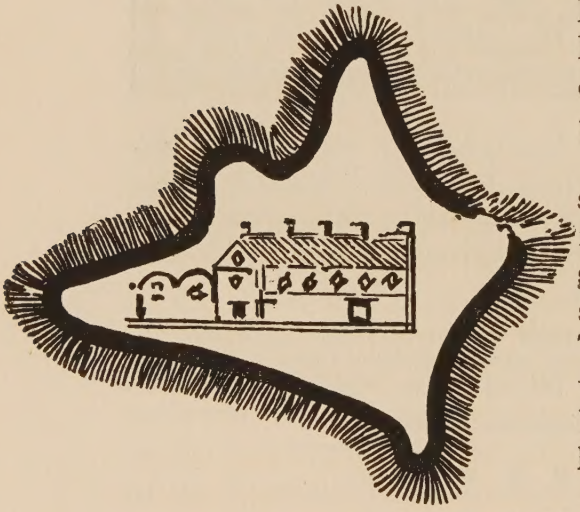
For Books on Music.

* * *

BY-PRODUCTS have as much to do with making a great library as with any other plant wherein things, intellectual or physical, are produced. This was shown to a remarkable extent when the collection of Evert J. Wendell, mainly theatrical material, was incorporated into the Harvard Library. It is illustrated afresh by the recent gift by George Henry Gay, of the library formed by his uncle, Ernest Lewis Gay, '97. Two items of exceptional interest

that have nothing to do with the main subjects that absorbed Mr. Gay's attention were found among his books. One is the official broadside, 'Printed for Edward Husband, Printer to the Honorable House of Commons, May 21, 1649,' and headed 'An Act Declaring and Constituting the People of England to be a Commonwealth and Free-State.'

The other is a manuscript, 'A Plan of the Indian Antiquities, discovered on the Western waters, A.D. 1785. Military gentlemen who have seen these uncommon fortifications say that no modern Engineers would have chosen situations more proper for defence than these when artillery is excepted.' It is a carefully executed drawing to scale, '10 chains to an inch,' of the Indian mounds at the junction of the Ohio and Muskingum rivers, opposite Fort Harmer, where the city of Marietta marks the site of the first settlement by the Ohio Company.



There is a thumb-nail sketch of the building, fort and trading post together, one quarter the size of the reproduction. This is earlier than any view that is mentioned by the historians of the locality.

* * *

THERE is always a feeling of satisfaction when the Library is able to contribute from its previous possessions to increase the importance of a new gift that comes to its shelves. It is no disparagement of the matchless John Gay collection, to state that Harvard already had one volume which in sentimental value outranks anything found among the new treasures. This is a volume which

appeared in the book market after Ernest Gay's death, and was secured by Miss Amy Lowell, from whom it came to the College Library two years ago, as one of her most prized possessions. It is John Gay's copy of the first edition of 'Paradise Lost.' Gay not only wrote his name on title and fly leaf, but he covered the blank pages with notes, and added many variant readings at the foot of the pages of text, proving the care with which he studied the poem from beginning to end.

The Library has had another book that belonged to John Gay, since 1874, when it came as part of Charles Sumner's bequest. It is a volume which proves that the poet was something of a book collector himself, for it is an interleaved, priced auction catalogue of the sale of the 'Bibliotheca Bernardiana: or, A Catalogue of the Library of the Late Charles Bernard, Esq., Serjeant Surgeon to Her Majesty, to be Sold the 22d of March, 1710–11, At the Black-Boy Coffee-House in Ave-Mary-Lane.'

* * *

Mr. Rollins dedicated his reprint of 'A Gorgeous Gallery of Dainty Devices,' from the Harvard University Press:

'To Addie Frances Rowe, the good genius of an entire generation of Harvard men, In gratitude and friendship.'

* * *

Thomas J. Holmes of the William Gwinn Mather Library at Cleveland, in an account of that remarkable collection recently printed privately, gives a summary of the results of his census of surviving copies of books written by the New England Mathers. Harvard, with 251 separate imprints, ranks fifth. The American Antiquarian Society is first, with 342, leading Mr. Mather's collection by 21. The Boston Public Library has 318; the Massachusetts Historical Society, 279; the Congregational Society in Boston, 167; and the Boston Athenaeum, 163; so that the

combined Boston resources give this community a secure preëminence. The other important collections are at the John Carter Brown Library, 250; and the Henry E. Huntington Library, 174. The Yale Library has 158; the New York Public Library, 142; the British Museum, 123; and the Bodleian Library at Oxford, 117.

Since this note was written, the gift of the Ernest L. Gay library adds 17 to the Harvard count, so that it now has a safe lead over its Providence rival, but not enough new titles to overtake the Historical Society.

* * *

THE LIBRARY has an established practice of not answering questionnaires about its size or its specialties. The figures given on a later page show why any attempt to supply such statistics is certain to be misleading.

The most serious difficulty in estimating the size of the library arises from the large number of tract volumes scattered through every division of the whole collection. One illustration is as good as another, and the one that came to hand while this note was waiting to be written was as unpromising as well could be — two volumes made up chiefly of sermons and eulogies on William Henry Harrison. Attention was called to them by a statement in McMurtrie's 'Bibliography of the Early Chicago Press,' that Harvard possesses the only copies he could locate of two of these eulogies, printed at Chicago in 1841.

Eighty-five years later, there is no very lively interest in obituaries of the first President Harrison, but there are a number of people who would give a great deal if they might possess these or anything else printed as early as 1841 in Chicago. There are others who will be interested in the fact that these same volumes contain pamphlets which came from the press at Cincinnati in 1836, with engravings; at Columbus, Ohio, in 1840; at Savannah, Winnsborough, Charleston, Ann Arbor, Andover, Taun-

ton, Salem, New Bedford, Lafayette, Bangor, Rochester, Amsterdam, and Harrisburg, as well as Chicago, in 1841.

Mr. McMurtrie overlooked a similar volume devoted to Chicago. This opens with the Charter of May, 1847, of which he found only a copy lacking the last leaf. Next comes the 'Proceedings of the Harbor and River Convention,' of the same year. The rest of the volume is made up principally of pamphlets printed in the city during the ensuing decade, including an undated announcement of the North-West Land Company. There is one other broadside in the lot, a 'Proclamation by the Mayor,' announcing the 'General Plan of Work of the Chicago Relief and Aid Society' after the fire of 1871.

The 81 separate titles in these volumes count only 3, statistically.

The statistics in question do prove one thing, however, convincingly. Whatever the size of the Harvard Library was in 1912, it is considerably more than twice as large now.

* * *

Miss Ayer returned to the Library for a few weeks in order to catalogue the John Gay collection. One day while she was looking over the books from the bequest of John S. Lawrence, '78, which had been laid aside as presumable duplicates, she came upon an interesting and apparently unrecorded variation in copies of 'De re militari,' a treatise containing the military writings of Flavius Renatus Vegetius and other strategists, printed at Paris by Jean Petit in 1515. In comparing the Lawrence copy of this work with the one from the Bowie library given by Mrs. Brandegee, she noticed that the dedications in the two copies were entirely different. Each begins, with differing headings, on the back of the title, one ending on the same page while the other is longer, running over eight lines on the next page. Fortunately, in both copies the first leaf has the watermark

which also appears on leaf 6, the last of the preliminary matter. As the mark is the same as that in the paper of the body of the book, it is evident that both were, to all appearances, printed at the same time, with nothing to show that one is prior to the other, or that one of the title leaves is a cancel which was substituted for the other. Except for the dedication, the two volumes are exact duplicates in all other respects.

One volume is dedicated to Antoine Duprat, chancellor of France under Francis I, by Jean Longueville, cardinal of Orleans. The cardinal is most flattering, and addresses the chancellor as 'unus belli pacisque moderator.'

The other volume is dedicated to the prince Louis Bourbon by Gui Breslay, a magistrate of Paris. The prince in this same year in which the book was published had been with Francis I in the campaign against the Milanese, and Breslay writes 'nam cui aptius librum hunc qui rem docet militarem aut convenientius inscribam quam tibi cum ea natura sis familia in qua tot insignes duces ac imperatores una serie floruerint.' Breslay does not describe the book in so much detail as Longueville does, but he speaks of 'Vegetius per me castigatus.'

When each man claims to be the editor, one cannot fail to wonder if either really was.

* * *

HARVARD LIBRARY NOTES is not a regular publication, and it is not an official organ of the Harvard University Library. It is issued at the request of the members of the Committee appointed by the Board of Overseers to visit the Library, for their information and that of members of the Library staff. It is paid for principally by contributions made by members of that Committee. Contributions from others will of course gladly be received, to be applied toward the cost of printing and mailing, or for other needs of the Library.

There is no subscription or exchange list, as the Library has no facilities for handling business of this character. Copies are not available for general gratuitous distribution.

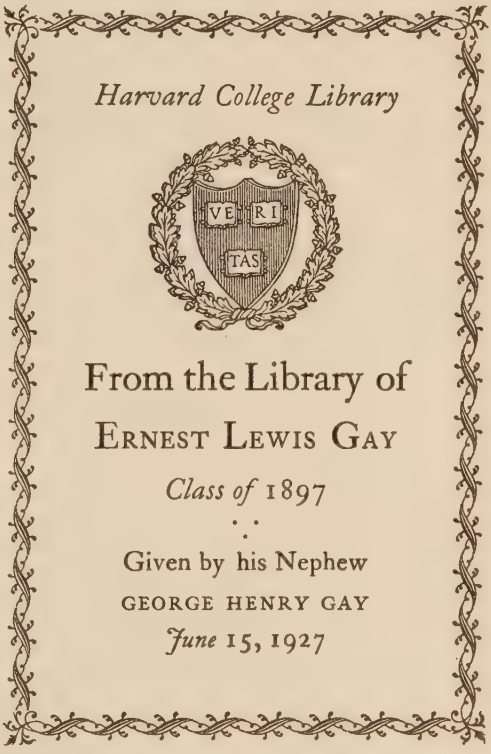
Copies are sold at 25 cents each.

THE NAME OF GAY

Ernest Lewis Gay of the Class of 1897 died while returning from the football game at New Haven in 1916. He had done one thing as well as it could be done, and a few others not at all badly. Two of the things he cared about were the name of Gay and Harvard, and he made it trebly certain that his family name will be remembered at the College Library.

Thanks to two brothers and the son of a third; firstly, the name of Gay is used by every one who has occasion to consult the Harvard collection of things printed in Stuart England, between 1603 and 1714.

Short and distinctive, it is an ideal symbol for a library classification. It is also appropriate, for it serves as a reminder that a large proportion of these tracts were collected by Mr. Frederick Lewis Gay,'78. Secondly, Harvard now possesses an unsurpassed collection of the writings of the eighteenth century poet, John Gay. It has likewise a very large number of out of the ordinary publications that were written by others of that family name.



Besides these, two-thirds of the Library's collection of editions of the New England Primer carry on a special bookplate the names of Ernest Lewis and George Henry Gay. A similar plate is in some three thousand other vol-

umes, almost every one of which is a book of which additional copies are particularly desirable.

When he graduated from college, Ernest Gay wanted to live usefully, according to the standards of his fellows. Books meant more to him than anything else, and so, after trying his hand at law and business, he went to a Library School, where he conscientiously mastered all that the instructors had to teach him. Then he spent two years on the staff of the Harvard Library, engaged chiefly in arranging the entire Molière collection gathered by Professor Bôcher and given to the Library by James Hazen Hyde, '98. Thence he went to other libraries in Washington and Providence. But this was all a waste of time and strength, and he knew only too well that these were the two things he did not have to spare. So he settled down at the family home on Beacon Street, about equally distant from the four places that were to see the most of him: the Harvard Library, the Harvard Club, the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, and the Club of Odd Volumes.

As an undergraduate, Gay began buying editions of the 'Beggar's Opera'; and almost the last time he saw Mr. Edmonds, he reported that he had secured the last edition on his list of known desiderata. He was equally thorough in his search for editions of all the other writings of John Gay, and his collection was as nearly complete as is humanly possible. Since his death, the Library has purchased three early editions with peculiarities which had escaped his notice, besides buying later editions as they appear. John Gay now ranks with the Harvard collections of the writings of Coleridge, Crowne, Dodgson, Donne, Dryden, Herbert, Keats, Milton, Persius, Prynne, Pope, and Walton in approaching a satisfactory state.

John Gay's autograph appears on the fly leaf of Dryden's 'Annus Mirabilis' of 1667, and of a 1662 Elzevir edition of Pierre Charron's 'De La Sagesse.' It is also signed to the

manuscript assignment to Jacob Tonson and John Watts of his rights as author of the 'Fables' and the 'Beggar's Opera,' dated February 6, 1727(8). The poet's signature is not easy to find, but infinitely scarcer is that of 'L. Bolton,' the Duchess of Bolton who was once Lavinia Fenton, the creator of the part of Polly in the 'Beggar's Opera,' and in no small measure responsible for its amazing first run of 1728.

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY

From the Collection of the
Writings of the Poet
JOHN GAY
1685–1732
Made by ERNEST LEWIS GAY
of the Class of 1897

Given to the Library in fulfillment of his Desires by his Nephew GEORGE HENRY GAY, June, 1927

The story of that spring season at the Lincoln's Inn Fields Theatre is far better known than that of any other successful play of equally long ago, because the theatre cash book for this year has been preserved. Mr. Gay secured it, and it is now one of the notable treasures in the Harvard Library, where the Theatre Collection and the English Literature section are striving to make good their respective claims to its custody. A pack of cards, on each of which is one of the tunes or a verse from one of the songs of the opera, is another otherwise unknown witness to the popularity of the play, as well as being an important addition to the collection of playing cards given by James E. Whitney, '89.

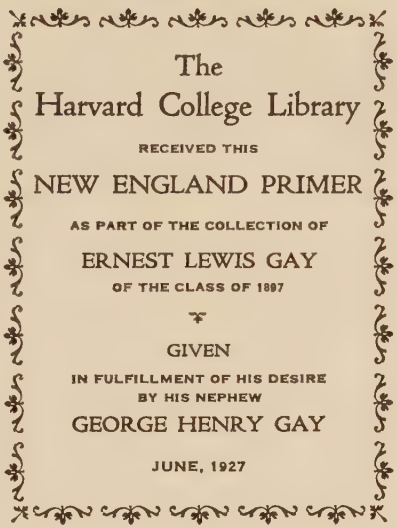
Typical of Ernest Gay's point of view is a typewritten list of ballad operas found among his papers. He realized that when his own collection of the 'Beggar's Opera' should become a part of the University Library, it would inevitably create a demand on the part of students for other productions of the same sort. So he drew up this list of everything necessary to supplement the 'Beggar's Opera.' Laid in with the list is a carefully-kept score card, of which the latest summary reads:

I.	No. described in this list	= 106
II.	No. of first editions of those on this list given to Harvard	= 35
III.	No. of eds. (other than 1st) given to Harvard	= 5
IV.	No. of eds. (other than 1st) already owned by Harvard	= 10
V.	No. of eds. owned by me	= 4
VI.	No. of items possessed by Harvard (either in 1st or later eds.) in the 39 listed by Squire [not counted above]	= 19
	No. listed by Tufts	= 260
	Of these H.C. and G. have	169

Anything by anybody of his family name always fascinated Ernest Gay. This section of his library contains a curious miscellany, but there are many titles which will do their full part in making the Harvard Library noteworthy. One is a lawyer's brief on behalf of a John Gay who traded to St. Eustatius in 1783, which was sent to him just before his death with the compliments of his London agents, Maggs Brothers. This has historical and economic interest, while it also represents a type of document in which the Law School Library is weak, although it very likely has more than any other collection. Of about the same date is a curious broadside calling upon Londoners to stop Damning one another, signed by Claude Gay, otherwise unknown to fame. 'An Account of Queen Mary's Methods' was printed in 1681 for John Gay, 'at the Flying-Horse between St. Dunstan's Church and Chancery Lane.'

The two brothers always had the College Library in mind when buying books. Ernest Gay's principal lines, in this direction, were the New England Primer, and the writings of the Mathers. In both, he had the inestimable

advantage of warm personal friendship with the most loyal, as well as learned, of Boston booksellers, P. K. Foley. Of this friendship, Harvard now reaps the benefit. There are 64 new Primers, twice as many as Harvard had before.



The earliest is dated 1767, and there are fifteen others issued before the end of that century. Quite as important, is the wide range of places at which they were published, all the way from Norwich and Newark to Glasgow.

Of the Mathers, only 17 are new titles, but several of these are either otherwise unknown or of exceptional rarity. As many more are equally welcome because they replace copies which are imperfect or in bad condition.

Among the almanacks, are three from seventeenth century Boston, and all that were needed to make the Harvard set of Ames's Almanack complete from 1739 to 1775.

With the books, is a card catalogue which is likely to remain an example of the unattainable ideal for other parts of the Library. Even the Theatre Collection must yield the pride of place to Ernest Gay's patient thoroughness in recording each separate detail regarding everything that had to do with John Gay. He meant sometime to publish a bibliography, and for this he laid his foundation broad and deep. The cost of printing this work as he would have wanted it done will probably stand in the way of carrying out this plan, but with the material virtually all prepared, it will undoubtedly be possible to arrange for some publication which will be a monument to his zeal and persistence.

FIFTEEN YEARS' GROWTH

Mr. Currier had a count made of the books in the library during the past winter, and reports a total of 1,361,350 pieces. This is probably as near a precisely accurate figure as the Library has ever had. It does not pretend to give the size of the Harvard Library, for it is much below the number of catalogued titles. The count was made from the shelf lists, and gives the number of volumes entered on those lists. The count, also, dealt only with the central collection, the College Library proper; it leaves out not only the Law, Architectural, and other independent libraries, but likewise the special departmental collections like the Classical and Municipal Research libraries.

Such a count can only be approximately accurate at best. One of the many difficulties is shown by the fact that 18,552 volumes were added while the count was being made, to sections already counted. The total includes also 19,250 volumes and 76,500 pamphlets which are unclassified. Some of these come down from the days when the library was grouped in alcoves, and are catalogued on the old small cards. In large part, however, they are titles which for one reason or another did not seem to call for cataloguing at the time when they were received. They form a reservoir from which the classified sections are occasionally being recruited, to meet changing standards of interest or of value. An impressive illustration of this is in the figures for Economics and for Education, both of which recovered scores of shabby pamphlets, old railroad reports and circulars from long forgotten academies, now alike priceless, from this store of unconsidered trifles. Here likewise Professor Channing found the Confederate States document which showed how closely akin the conditions which forced the evacuation of Richmond were to those in the German army when the World War broke up.

There is one estimated item, of more serious import, of 54,000 volumes awaiting the attention of the cataloguers. This is not quite as bad as it looks, for more than half of it is accounted for by the Boulay de la Meurthe library, purchased last February. It is quite bad enough, after all allowances, for it measures the extent to which this sadly understaffed department is behind in its work. Until this French library was landed upon them, the cataloguers had been making steady progress in cutting down arrears. These reached their previous peak during the years following the war, when the demoralization of exchange offered opportunities not likely to occur again. Practically all the books in this uncatalogued preserve are parts of large groups which belong together, like the French science bought from the Degrand Fund and a heavy accumulation of Italian literature, which is, however, steadily being reduced. These groups can be kept in mind, and are for the most part subjects for which the demand is relatively light. In spite of its difficulties, the department manages to send all ordinary accessions along to the shelves promptly.

The count made in 1912 marks approximately the beginning of the Library's present era. Long before that, the growth of the collection had broken down the old Gore Hall system of fixed-location numbering. Various ingenious efforts had been tried to make the old scheme work, but the situation eventually became so cumbersome that a wholly new plan was adopted. The reclassification under this was very nearly completed fifteen years ago — except for a few overwhelmingly difficult, and expensive, problems. Of these, English, French and German Literature, and Folk Lore, are the chief. Just what the delay means, in a single subject, may be inferred from the figures. In 1912, the Library had 26,881 pieces classified as English Literature. The figure for 1927 is 64,940. There is no more money in sight now than there was in 1912, to pay for rearranging this hopelessly muddled classification, with its

numbers still recalling the years when each figure meant a certain shelf in a certain row on the fourth floor of Gore Hall. But if the task could be undertaken at once, there would be nearly two and a half times as many books as in 1912, to each of which a new number must be assigned. The effort to make the old system work probably calls for an amount of unnecessary time and trouble each year which would go far toward paying the interest on the cost of reclassification, but library budgets do not allow for calculations of this sort.

The figures for some of the typical sections are opposite. The Library's classification symbol is in italic type.

In some cases the explanation of the growth is easy. Education and Portugal reflect the repeated generosity and the continued personal attention of three friends of the Library. Italy is just beginning to benefit from the establishment of the Bennett H. Nash Fund, and may be expected to increase even more rapidly in the future. About 2,500 ought to be added at once to the Italian figures, 1,000 to Portugal, 6,000 to China, and at least 20,000 to French history, for books already in the building waiting until the cataloguers can dispose of them. Celtic shows what can be accomplished when a member of the faculty keeps closely in touch with the sources of supply.

On the other hand, a number of subjects were included in this list because very little attention has consciously been given to them. They demonstrate the way in which the Library keeps on developing almost in spite of itself. Engineering and all the physical and natural sciences have their own libraries at their laboratories, into which the current publications ordinarily go. But those who depend upon the College Library must not be starved, when they want to consult books about subjects in which they are not specialists. Forestry makes a pitiful showing, but the late Professor Sargent brought together at the Arnold Arboretum what he meant to be the greatest library in the

	1912	1927
*Afr*ica	3,231	6,962
*A*merican *L*iterature	8,025	22,611
*Aus*tria	2,716	5,835
*B*ibliography	9,932	18,803
*Br*itish History, Documents and *Gay*	26,428	54,244
*Can*adian History and Literature	3,886	9,160
*Celt*ic	519	2,258
*Ch*ina	1,814	9,623
*C*hurch History	13,779	27,054
*Econ*omics	22,792	57,671
*Educ*ation	15,695	61,590
English Literature	26,881	64,940
*Eng*ineering	2,329	9,463
*F*ine *A*rts	9,741	19,496
Folk Lore	11,957	23,844
*For*estry	551	1,380
*Fr*ench History and Literature	35,435	69,136
*Ger*man History and Literature	27,054	46,020
*Ind*ia	2,563	8,711
*Int*ernational Law	1,660	4,160
*Ital*ian History and Literature	16,919	32,357
*Mus*ic	6,934	15,869
*Neth*erlands History and Literature	3,487	11,323
*Phil*osophy	11,512	28,431
*Port*uguese History and Literature	588	5,295
*Rom*ance Literatures	618	2,654
*Scan*dinavian History and Literature	5,836	8,700
*S*cience	13,488	33,998
*Slav*ic History and Literature	8,449	18,350
*Soc*iology	6,388	21,468
*S*outh *A*merican History and Literature	6,816	27,031
*Span*ish History and Literature	5,391	14,356
*S*ports and Games	854	2,083
*Th*eatre	2,134	11,316
*U*nited *S*tates History	44,129	112,464

world on this subject. There are a number of these books which ought to be accessible in Cambridge, even though Harvard owns another copy at Jamaica Plain.

The College Library is not always the poor relation, however, even of a greater than itself. The Harvard Law Library is easily peerless, and one of the things it is proud of is the assemblage of some 40,000 accounts of trials. There must be very nearly as many more of these in the College Library, with surprisingly little duplication. Of course the two ought to be together. The Law Library would seem to be the obvious place, until one takes into consideration the fact that, as two cases prove which have lately attracted popular attention in Massachusetts, the historical, economic, and social significance of these documents is immeasurably greater than their value as illustrating the chess-like moves of the lawyers engaged.

The additions made to some of the smaller classifications not listed are likewise satisfactory. The addition of 76 to the number of volumes grouped as examples of the output of the Aldine press, due largely to the John S. Lawrence bequest, is in spite of an increasing practice of assigning Aldine imprints to their proper subject location. The growth of the George Herbert collection from 173 to 187 signifies a near approach to perfection. That of Montaigne from 474 to 604 shows a steady effort to fill in the missing early editions. Emblem books increased from 245 to 298.

The count of the classified portion of the Library, in 1912, was 498,352. The 1927 figure is 1,208,348. These figures seem to show that the Harvard College Library is not falling behind in any way that need cause anxiety. They more than bear out Mr. Potter's estimate that the Library has doubled heretofore every twenty years, and prove that there are no signs of a slowing up.

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